

CAUSES A VAST LOSS

Fire Destroys Twenty Blocks of a Texas City.

CALAMITY IN FORT WORTH

Carelessly Thrown Cigarette Produces a Conflagration.

AT LEAST ONE LIFE IS LOST

Six Persons Sustain Serious Injury. Three Churches and Many Residences Food for Flames.

FORT WORTH, Tex., April 3.—Starting in a barn, presumably from a carelessly thrown cigarette, fire this afternoon destroyed property in the southern portion of Fort Worth to an extent conservatively estimated at two and a half million dollars, caused the death of one person, J. J. Newton of Krum, Tex., and rendered several thousand persons homeless.

The fire originated at Jennings avenue and Petersmith street, in the center of a fashionable residence district, and, fanned by a stiff wind, was beyond control within fifteen minutes after it was discovered. Spreading to the south it burned its way through thirty-two blocks and continued until it had swept through the yards of the Texas and Pacific railroad, destroying the railroad buildings and a large amount of rolling stock. There the fire practically burned itself out, as nothing further remained in the pathway of the flames.

Church Buildings Go.
Three church buildings, the Broadway Baptist and Presbyterian and the Swedish Chapel, were among the buildings destroyed, as were the Presbyterian Sanitarium. The patients of the latter institution were all removed in safety.

The Texas and Pacific railroad suffered the largest individual loss. Fourteen locomotives were reduced to twisted masses of steel and iron, and several hundred box cars, besides the roundhouse and other buildings of the road, were destroyed.

Assistance From Other Cities.

The local fire department being unable to cope with the situation, assistance was rushed from Dallas and Weatherford on special trains, but even with these reinforcements the spread of the flames was not checked until they had eaten their way to the Texas and Pacific railroad reservation on the east. On the south the fire checked at the Texas and Pacific passenger station, this steel and stone structure forming a bulwark that saved the wholesale district of the city, which at one time was in imminent danger of destruction.

Most of the residences burned were new and pretentious, in the most exclusive residence section of the city. So rapidly did the flames spread that people living within a radius of three blocks of the place of origin had no time to save anything except the clothing they wore.

THREE FIRES IN DALLAS.

Seventy-Five Dwellings and Their Contents Destroyed.

DALLAS, Tex., April 3.—Dallas had three large fires this afternoon and evening. A total of about seventy-five dwellings and their contents were destroyed. The losses are estimated to have been destroyed with most of their contents. While part of the city department was absent helping subdue the flames in Fort Worth, the first fire started on Grand avenue, near the fair grounds section of the eastern part of the city. Four dwellings were burned, causing \$15,000 loss.

Next a fire started in the large hospital in Oak Cliff, the westernmost suburb of the city, known as the Briggs Sanitarium. The institution was completely wiped out, causing a loss of perhaps \$50,000. All the inmates were rescued without serious injury. A fierce fire was blowing, and carried large burning brands in every direction, and soon fires were raging in a half dozen or more blocks, separated at considerable distances. The flames finally got the flames under control.

BIG FIRES IN HUNGARY.

Warehouses and Contents Burn. Seminary Ruined.

SATORAJKA-UHELY, Hungary, April 3.—Eight hundred freight trucks, large quantities of military stores and six warehouses were destroyed here by fire today.

VESPRIM, Hungary, April 3.—Vesprim was visited by a serious fire today, which completely destroyed the cathedral, most of the residences of the clerical and a score of other houses. No fatalities have been reported. The losses are heavy.

JURY LOCKED UP.

No Verdict in Trial for Murder of Dr. E. W. Smith.

RALEIGH, N. C., April 3.—Today was resumed in argument by state and defense in the trial of Earl Cotton, Tim Holdfield and "Red" Hopkins, charged with the murder of Dr. E. W. Smith, a traveling man of Richmond, Va., the night of November 14 last. The jury went out at 9:30 o'clock tonight and after two hours, no verdict having been reached, Judge Lyon ordered that it be locked up for the night.

The state asks for a verdict of murder in the first degree, but it is said, will be satisfied with a second degree verdict.

THREATS TO REVOLT

Republicans Demand Changes in Tariff Bill.

PETITION THE COMMITTEE

Thirty Members Formulate Amendments They Desire Reported.

DUTY ON COAL AND IRON ORE

West Virginians Especially Insistent in Demands—Other Committee Reductions Agreed To.

Insurrection among the republican membership again menaces the House leadership. This time it is directed against the tariff bill.

Some thirty republican members of the House met yesterday afternoon to formulate a demand upon the ways and means committee that amendments to the pending tariff bill which they desire shall be authorized in the rule to be reported to the House next Monday.

Representative Hughes of West Virginia presided over the meeting, which was attended by three of the members of the ways and means committee: Representatives Fordney (Mich.), Cushman (Wash.) and Gaines (West Virginia). Those present have been most prominent in advocating certain changes in the bill. Their opposition is largely responsible for the delay in taking up the measure under the minute rule.

A number of these members contended that their desire was merely to permit the offering of amendments to the lumber, hide, iron ore and coal schedules in order that there might be no vote thereon. That such a vote might result in placing lumber on the free list and that the other changes sought might be defeated became evident during the past few days. It was therefore decided that the best way in which to bring about the changes desired was to take to the House a petition in Monday restrict amendments to those which the ways and means committee will report, and have that committee include the five amendments asked for in the petition.

Petition to Chairman Payne.

Implying that they would vote against any rule to restrict amendments to the Payne bill unless the changes they desire are provided for by the ways and means committee, the republicans in the meeting decided to send the following petition to Chairman Payne:

"The undersigned request your committee to present the following committee amendments to the Payne tariff bill: 'An amendment providing for a duty of forty-five cents a ton of 2,000 pounds of iron ore and striking out the provision for reciprocity; 'For a duty of twenty-five cents a ton of iron ore; 'For a duty of \$3 a ton on pig iron and scrap iron; 'For a duty of 10 per cent on hides; 'The amendment to the lumber schedule to be confined to the proviso. 'A rule which will provide for the above we receive our support.'"

It was claimed by the leaders of the movement that fully fifty signatures of republican members would be subscribed to the petition by Monday.

Those Who Were Present.
Besides the three members of the committee, the following republicans were among those present at the meeting: Representatives Hughes, Woodyard and Sturgis, West Virginia; Keifer, Kennedy, Johnson and Thomas, Ohio; Ellis and Hawley, Oregon; Loud and Young, Michigan; Morehead, Cowles and Grant, North Carolina; Pocht, Barclay and Wiley, Pennsylvania; Howland, Utah; Mondell, Wyoming; Ketchum, Kentucky, and Humphreys, Washington.

The ways and means committee yesterday upon the basis of the petition, Michigan decided to report an amendment striking out the countervailing duty provision on lumber, and, in their petition, the opposition expressed the desire that the rule for considering the tariff bill will limit amendments in the number schedule to the proviso. The bill would make it impossible to have a vote on the question of free lumber or to raise the duties to what they are under the Dingley law.

It had been the impression that the ways and means committee would report an amendment placing the same duty on scrap iron as the bill provides for pig iron, it having been contended that no pig iron would be imported under the provisions of the Payne bill, which places a duty of 50 cents per ton on scrap iron and a duty of \$2.50 per ton on pig iron. Under the Dingley law both articles are taxed at 34 cents per ton. The petition seeks to have the duty fixed at \$3 a ton on both.

The republican members except four who were present at the meeting which decided on the petition expressed their intention of voting against the rule to be reported Monday, unless the committee offers their amendments.

West Virginians Insistent.

The West Virginians were particularly determined to have the reciprocity provision permitting the free entry of coal from countries which impose no duty on coal from the United States struck out, and the duty on bituminous coal, including culm and slack, fixed at 45 cents per ton of 2,000 pounds. The Payne bill, as reported, makes the duty the same as in the Dingley law, with the exception that slack and culm are included under the same rate. The Dingley law provides a duty of 15 cents per ton of twenty-eight bushels of coal slack or culm.

Besides taking off the duty on tea and the countervailing clause for coffee the ways and means committee yesterday decided to report numerous other amendments reducing the duties in the original bill. The duty on pens was reduced to 25 cents per bushel, 15 cents less than at present. Evergreen seedlings and the tobacco and cigars shall be subject to the same conditions imposed by that country on a citizen of the United States, in violation of an international convention which precludes any discrimination against foreign citizens in the duty on pens was reduced to 25 cents per bushel, 15 cents less than at present.

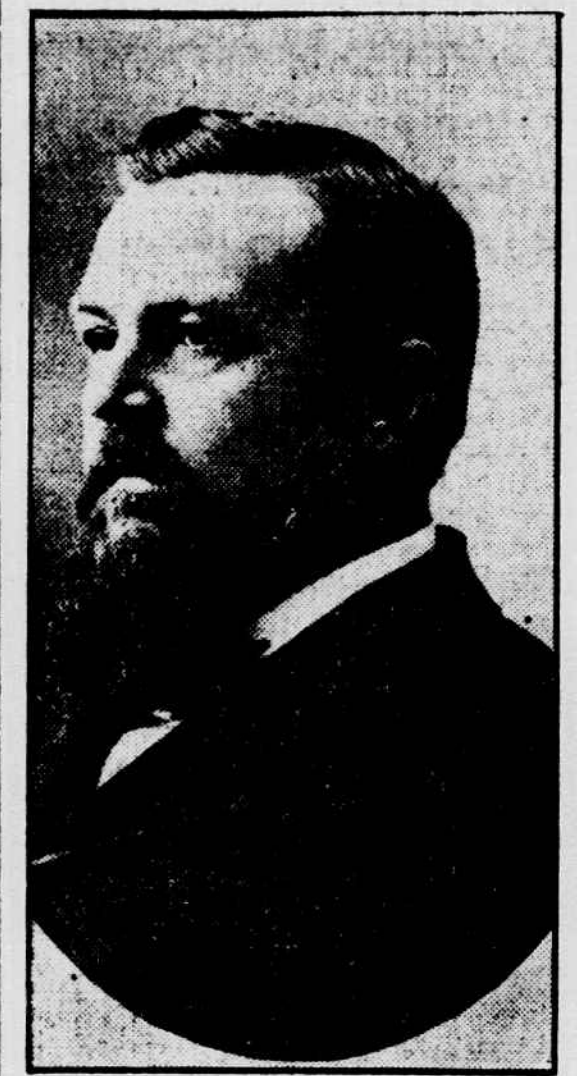


SIGNS OF SPRING.

JOSEPH W. BABCOCK VERY ILL

RECOVERY OF FORMER REPRESENTATIVE IS DOUBTFUL.

Mrs. Babcock Also in a Serious Condition—Son Charles Summoned From Chicago.



Joseph W. Babcock.

FAVORS 'MEGAPHONE SYSTEM'

BONAPARTE AGAINST 'WHISPERING ADMINISTRATIONS.'

Former Attorney General in Address Emphasizes His Belief in Civil Service Principles.

NEW YORK, April 3.—Former Attorney General Charles J. Bonaparte, speaking at a luncheon at the City Club today, expressed himself in favor of the "megaphone" method of governmental administration, as compared with the "whispering method." "Whenever you find any one," said he, "who wishes to discharge his duty in corners, in whispers, in darkness, or at least, in twilight, you have a man who wishes to run his office in accordance with other than civil service principles."

"Personally, I am more convinced than ever that civil service is absolutely necessary to the proper conduct of our government."

Mr. Bonaparte then told of a conversation he had had with a justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, during which he said to him that he would never be satisfied until the highest court in the land was brought under civil service rules, and his appointments were made by competitive examination.

Joseph W. Babcock of Wisconsin, formerly chairman of the House committee on the District of Columbia and of the republican congressional committee and for many years a representative in Congress, is critically ill at his home on B street, just one block from the Senate wing of the Capitol. Mr. Babcock has been confined to his home for the past few weeks. Up to four or five days ago, however, his condition was thought to be improving. Then he had a relapse, and while his physicians will not admit that they have lost hope, they do not express themselves as sanguine of Mr. Babcock's recovery. Mrs. Babcock is also critically ill, having been in a semi-conscious condition since last Tuesday.

Long-distance telephone communication was had yesterday with Mr. Babcock's son, Charles, in Chicago, and with Harry Barney, formerly clerk of the House District committee, now president of a bank in the district formerly represented by Mr. Babcock and in which the latter is interested. Both are expected in Washington by tomorrow evening.

DECLINES TO DISCUSS IT.

Mr. Fairbanks Asked About the Ambassadorship Rumor.

LOS ANGELES, April 3.—Asked about the rumor from Washington today that he might be named by President Taft as ambassador to Great Britain, former Vice President Charles W. Fairbanks said he had no knowledge whatever of the matter. He declined to discuss the subject further.

RENUNCIATION OF MIQUEL.

Portuguese Pretender Retains Claim to Succeed to Throne.

LISBON, Wednesday, March 24.—While King Manuel and the royal family received favorably Don Miguel's offer to renounce his pretensions to the throne, the pretender cannot return to Portugal until parliament has repealed the act of banishment against him.

Don Miguel only proposes at present to renounce his claims in favor of the present dynasty and not any ultimate rights of succession he might have in case the

king died without heir, and his uncle, the Grand Duke of Oporto, should survive.

In other words, Don Miguel proposes to throw in his lot with the young king and support him loyally in exchange for the right of succession.

This co-operation on the part of Don Miguel is an important acquisition for the throne. Over 200 noble families probably will return to Portugal if parliament makes peace beyond the moment. Don Miguel has considerable property in Portugal which was confiscated when he was banished. It is assumed that this treasure will be returned to the pretender if he is allowed to come back to the country.

TWO SHOT DOWN IN STREET.

Probably Fatal Shooting in Georgia Over Bank Check.

HAZLEHURST, Ga., April 3.—Eugene and J. L. Williams, brothers, were shot down on a street of this place today by V. T. Stowers, formerly of Conyers, Ga.; J. L. Williams being probably fatally hurt. The brothers are members of the firm of Jarman & Williams. It was stated that Stowers had given this firm a check the bank would not honor; that Eugene demanded the money, a fight resulting. J. L. Williams went to his brother's rescue, it is alleged, when Stowers drew his pistol.

Eugene Williams was shot in the hip, but the ball has not been located. His brother received a bullet in his breast. Stowers was caught and rushed toward the jail at Douglas, as great excitement followed the shooting.

Dangers in Morning Cup of Tea.

Special Cablegram to The Star.

LONDON, April 3.—The Lancet gives solemn warning of the dangers in the morning cup of tea served in bed. Tea itself, freshly infused and with a great deal of milk or cream added, cannot really be considered harmful, but "septic potentialities" accumulate in the mouth during the night, so "the most cogent argument against the early morning cup of tea is that in many cases the tea is swallowed before the mouth and teeth are cleansed and a poisoning process in the system might thus easily be begun."

CHARGES AFFECT LA FOLLETTE

WISCONSIN DEPUTY GAME WARDEN MAKES STATEMENT.

Says Former Governor Gave Direction for Participation in Politics. Senator Merely Laughs.

MADISON, Wis., April 3.—That United States Senator La Follette, while Governor of Wisconsin, personally directed game wardens to take a part in politics was the gist of the testimony of Deputy Game Warden W. C. Haslem of Appleton before the senatorial investigation committee today.

Haslem said he was called to Senator La Follette's office and was told by the senator that H. F. Hagemeister, state senator from Green Bay, must be defeated. Later, Haslem said, he was ordered into Grant county to work for J. J. Blaine as a candidate for congress against J. W. Babcock. He declared that he was told on leaving Grant county, after the Blaine campaign, that there were forty-eight state employees on the train.

Senator La Follette's attention was called last night to the charges of Deputy Game Warden Haslem. He merely laughed and said he must decline to break his rule, which is not to discuss any charges of the character in question for publication.

Denver Women Against Tariff.
DENVER, Col., April 3.—In keeping with the general protest among women's clubs throughout the United States against increases in the tariff on women's wear, committees have been appointed by various Denver women's clubs to urge on the opposition to the increased schedules.

Monday every big store in the city will install "signing stations," at which women may sign petitions which, when completed, will be sent to Washington. It is anticipated that the Denver petitions will contain more than 80,000 names.

RUSSIA HAS TO YIELD

Germany Forces Acquiescence in Austrian Aggrandizement.

OLD POLICY IS REVERSED

Advice Given by the Kaiser's Grandfather Disregarded.

PEACE FOR THE MOMENT MADE

Much Uneasiness Caused Among the Thinking Classes of Great Britain. Eight More Dreadnoughts.

Special Cablegram to The Star.
LONDON, April 3.—It is now definitely known, despite semi-official denials from Berlin, that Germany delivered a distinct ultimatum to Russia March 28, summoning her to recognize Austria's annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina forthwith or military operations would begin against her immediately. The German ambassador informed Foreign Minister Izvolsky that if Russia refused to take the step required Germany would consider the refusal an act of hostility to her. Austria ally and that German troops would at once cross the frontier. The ambassador further intimated that Germany had mobilized a great force on the Polish frontier in preparation for the movement.

Izvolsky asked for sufficient time to consult the western powers. This was refused. Izvolsky thereupon summoned an emergency meeting of the imperial council, and within twenty-four hours it was decided to yield completely to Germany's demands. Thus by a single stroke Germany made peace for the moment in the Balkans and also changed the whole face of European politics.

Old Policy Reversed.

It is necessary to recall here an important bit of history. When the first German emperor was dying he summoned his grandson, the present kaiser, to advise him on the foreign policy of the empire. He charged him, above all else, never to quarrel with Russia. Friendly relations with that empire were, he declared, essential to the welfare of Germany. Bismarck was of the same opinion, and has been the fundamental policy of Germany until now.

These traditions have now been abandoned and Germany has completely usurped Russia's role as the champion of the Slavs and all the other elements in the Balkans. No one can doubt that Germany's first aggressive use of her great power toward achieving her ambition to secure the harmony of Europe makes a new era beyond the moment have before us the first move in the campaign of retaliation which the kaiser would make against King Edward's league of peace. Russian anger knows no bounds, but it is impotent anger for the time being. The rage of Russia is matched by the alarm of England.

England Apprehensive.

Nowhere has Germany's master stroke created so much uneasiness among all thinking classes as in Great Britain. Germany held a pistol to Russia's head yesterday; she might do the same with equal success against England tomorrow with the present government in power. But even the conservative elements of present British opinion begin to see the writing on the wall.

There is good reason to believe Asquith, a few days after the budget is introduced, after the Easter holidays, will announce the government's intention to build eight Dreadnoughts forthwith. Such a step is a move toward a proper sense of responsibility on both sides. Even Balfour, whose careless languor in politics for the past few years has exposed him to his friends and foes alike, is developing qualities of vigorous leadership. He has the country with him beyond question.

The United States today is not of the noisy sort. It is far more potent and irresistible on that account. It is safe to predict that unless the government shows every determination to rearm the country at the highest available speed means will be found within the next few weeks to sweep them from power. Popular judgment sums up the situation in a sentence:

"War with Germany would cost England one million sterling a day. One Dreadnought costs two millions, or the same as two days of possible war."

Germany Arouses Hatred.

Germany's high-handed settlement of the Balkan question has completely clarified the European situation in an important sense. Germany has completely solidified as nothing else has done, and will henceforth be the putative ally of France against her. Great Britain and France. Hatred of Germany today is as deep and permanent in Russia, as in France.

This will prove no small element in the greater crisis toward which the frantic struggle in war preparation is driving the European world. Russia is only momentarily weak. The domestic reforms which are making rapid progress in Moscow, and the enormous resources of the country are enormous. The speed of Russia's rearmament will be such that Germany, in such circumstances, it would be wise or not to accept humiliation. Such a dilemma is idle. An autocracy may be able to choose humiliation. A democracy and, least of all a British democracy, can do no such thing. The people, in such a dilemma, will always choose the sword."

War or Humiliation.

The Spectator today, in closing an alarmist leader, declares that unless England organizes resources for the building and equipment of ships to the utmost Germany will take similar action toward Britain as she did toward Russia, and from the German point of view quite likely.

"Then," says the Spectator, "we shall have to choose between fighting at a tremendous disadvantage and national humiliation. We will not discuss whether, in such circumstances, it would be wise or not to accept humiliation. Such a dilemma is idle. An autocracy may be able to choose humiliation. A democracy and, least of all a British democracy, can do no such thing. The people, in such a dilemma, will always choose the sword."

WINNERS AT GOLF.

President and Vice President Best Army Officers.

The administration golf team, of which President Taft and Vice President Sherman are members, played its second game on the links at Chevy Chase yesterday afternoon. Their opponents yesterday was the same team which won the game a week ago, Capt. A. W. Butts, military aid to the president, and Gen. Clarence Edwards, chief of the insular bureau of the War Department.

The President and Mr. Sherman won out against the army officers two up and one to play at the seventeenth hole.

CERVERA'S LIFE ENDS

Vanquished at Santiago, Dies of Heart Affection.

VICE ADMIRAL OF SPAIN

Retired Because of Failing Health December 14 Last.

CONDITION GRAVE FOR MONTH

Distinguished Career in Service of Country—Sent on Forlorn Hope to Meet Defeat Off Cuba.

PUERTO REAL, Spain, April 3.—Vice Admiral Pascual Cervera, who commanded the Spanish fleet in the battle of Santiago, Cuba, died here this afternoon.

Cervera was retired from the active list of the Spanish navy December 14 last at his own request on account of failing health. Shortly afterward he proceeded to Puerto Real in the hope of improving his health.

During the last month he has been in a critical condition. He was kept alive only by the use of oxygen and hypodermic injections.

He suffered from an affection of the heart.

The members of the admiral's family were present at his bedside, as was also Rear Admiral Eulate, who was commander of the Vizcaya at Santiago.

Admiral Cervera in his last hours asked that no military honors be paid him. He showed great fortitude and beseeched his relatives not to grieve. He retained consciousness until within a few minutes of his death. King Alfonso has telegraphed his condolences.

Career of Admiral Cervera.

Admiral Pascual Cervera was the most distinguished and the ablest of the Spanish naval officers with whom the naval forces of the United States had to contend in the Spanish-American war.

Had Cervera been allowed to have his way the Cape Verde fleet, of which he was commander, would have been allowed to sail from the Cape Verde islands and attack the Spanish fleet in the harbor of Santiago de Cuba. In such a ploy one-sided action—would have been placed upon a much more effective war footing and the results might have been serious to the United States, although they could not have been fatal.

Don Pascual Cervera was a long-headed and far-seeing man. He was old in his experience of modern naval warfare, and although the navy of foreign powers as had no other man in his country.

Himself an architect and constructor of warships, he realized to the full the needs and defects of the ships he was called upon to lead out to battle, and pleaded with the minister of marine to go to any reasonable length to appease the United States.

But, he added, ominously, "should we go to war we shall be overwhelmed."

His Fears Realized.

Shortly before the outbreak of the war Admiral Cervera wrote as follows:

"My fears are realized. The conflict is fast coming upon us, and the Colon has not received her big guns; the Carlos V. has not been delivered and her 10-cm. artillery is not yet mounted. The Pelayo is not fit for service. I am waiting for her rebuild, and I believe her secondary battery, the Victoria has no artillery, and of the Numancia the victor of Manila is not fit for service. But he obeyed orders, although his fleet was short of coal and rations, the bottoms of some of the ships were foul, the armaments were defective and the crew, generally speaking, about as poor as could well be imagined. Handicapped as he was, he made a brave fight and was not taken prisoner until his fleet was helpless."

He sailed from the Cape Verde islands with four cruisers and three torpedo boats in the first days of April, 1898, and lost his entire fleet off that port July 3 in Admiral Sampson's blockading squadron.

Cervera's Story of Fight.

In his description of his own flagship and his own rescue from death at that time Admiral Cervera said:

"The enemy's fire produced terrible damages on board the Infanta Maria Teresa, destroying the elements of defense—among others, the net for protection against fire."

"In this critical moment the captain of the ship, Senor Concas, fell wounded. It was necessary to withdraw him. I taking command of the vessel, because it was impossible to find the second commandant."

"Immediately afterward they reported to me that my cabin was burning, owing to an explosion. The fire soon became very great and ignited other parts of the ship. I gave orders to my aid to flood the after magazines, but it was impossible."

"Dense clouds of smoke impeded walking in the passages and practicing any kind of operations. In this situation I could only think of beaching the ship and did so, running aground on Punta Cervera."

"The contest was impossible on our side. There was nothing more to be done but to save as much as we could. I thought to lower the flag, but that was not possible on account of the fire, which prevented all operations."

"In these anxious moments two boats came to the aid of the Maria Teresa into which a number of us jumped. Those of us that were dying were saved, with nothing."

"The Maria Teresa lowered a small flag, while the sank before it could be of assistance. Subsequently the men on the ship succeeded in launching a steam launch, but this also sank, after making one voyage to the beach."

"I succeeded in saving myself with the aid of two sailors, all of us arriving on board the American ship Gloucester naked."

Cervera sprang from the proud Castilian blood. He was a veteran of two or three wars at the time he was called upon to contend with the United States.

He was born February 13, 1830. His family was one of wealth. His father was the most prominent wine merchant in Spain and his mother a Topepe. Many of the foremost Spanish naval officers were members of the Topepe family, and under one of them the young Cervera learned many valuable lessons in naval warfare.

Saw Foreign Service.

Young Cervera was graduated from the naval academy of San Fernando, which in Spain corresponds to Annapolis, and after spending the required time on a training ship he saw foreign service. He brought distinction on the Spanish arms in Africa, Cuba and Jolo.

In 1859 Cervera engaged in naval opera-